

AUGUST 1957

THE END OF THE WORLD IS COMING

ONLY TEN BILLION YEARS LEFT. WHILE

have you a taste for luxury? MOIRIER do say du MOIRIER when only the best will do Aging mellows tobacco. And du Moirier's extraordinary tobaccos age for years in

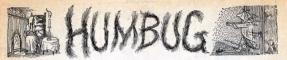
Aging mellows tobacco. And du Moirier's extraordinary tobaccos age for years in wooden casks...maturing slowly, leisurely after which they are taken and shaped into tiny little letters which are put together to spell du Moirier cigarettes.

Do say du Moirier



do Moirier cigarettes, a product of Brown & Smith Tobacco Corporation

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HERE WE GO AGAIN

Harvey Kurtzman 598 Madison Avenue New York, N.Y.

Dear Harvey:

I have been an avid fan of yours for about 6 years and have followed your antics through "Mad" and "Trump [magazines]...
One has announced [temporary suspension], and in



Horsey Kurtyman

the case of "Mad" has evolved to the hands of some other editorship ...

The big question is one which may be plaguing you too. What are you going to do now . . ? I'd hate to think that I would not be able to pore over the artistic inanities of Bill [Elder], or laugh at the big-footed creations of



THE REAL PROPERTY.

Jack [Davis]. I sincerely hope that your plans do not follow the recent trend -10e, 25e, 50e. I like your stuff, but as a school teacher, I can't afford to keep up with you at the rate you are becoming High Class. Whatever you decide to do, please don't go into hiding, get some other nut on whilsh your stuff and



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SPEED, AND THIS POLITY NO. 1. IN PRINCIPED ROUTEST OF REMEMBER CO., THE THE MODES RETURN THE VARIABLE THE THE SECOND STATES AND THE SECOND STATES AND THE SECOND STATES AND THE SECOND STATES. THE SECOND STATES AND THE SEC



see if you can't last until the public is educated enough to appreciate your brand of humor. (They have dropped Bob and Ray, too—have all sponsors gone insane??)

... Why don't you and Bill, and Jack, and Wally [Wood] go back to comies? It may not be as much fun as "Adult Humor" but you'll probably sell a heck of a lot more rags. If you do, or even if you go in for something else, you can assure yourself of the Robert's family kicking in for one copy of whatever your efforts may be.

Good luck, write if yo' get work.

Iohn C. Roberts
Wheatridge, Colo.



We'll tell you what we're going to do now, Mr Roberts

We don't believe in standing still and letting the grass grow under our feet! Oh no! We're going to spring into action, Mr. Roberts! We're going to hustle on down to that Unemployment Insurance office for money.

After that, we're going to hustle back to work on our latest'magazine, HUM-3UG.

Humbug will be a cru-

sading magazine. We will tackle important national issues such as Should the Mayflower Replica be Allowed to Land in the U.S., and Fluoridation—the Red Conspiracy.



Humbug will be a responsible magazine. We won't write for morons. We won't do anything just to get laughs. We won't be grotesque. We won't be in bad taste. We won't sell any magazines.

All kidding aside, you'll find Jack Davis, Will Elder, Al Jaffee, Arnold Roth and Wally Wood (excellent cartoonists) here. And you'll find our usual brand of satire.

We enjoy receiving mail, and we'd like to start a letter column. So please write and tell us what you think of HUMBUG.

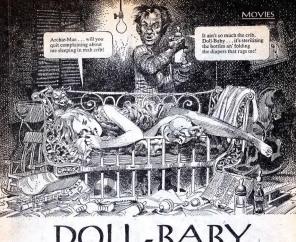
> -Harvey Kurtzman editor





IS THAT WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU, OLD TIMER?

Cen't get your MAD books? Didn't know that all the MAD books contain K-Xº (a secret ingredient emitted only by the tiny brain of Harvey Kurtzman)? Bon't cry, old timer. Send your S-.70 to Bollontine Books, 101 Fifth Ave., New York 3, N. Y.—we'll send you both The MAD Reader and Inside MAD. But horry!



DOLL-BABY

Here is part of a movie that owes its success to excit- rival cotton-gin of Silva Lasagna. The ensuing plot is ing screen-play, brilliant direction, talented acting and built around Lasagna's proving Archie-Mae was the Cardinal Spellman. The way the story goes is, Doll- arsonist . . . which nobody really cares about since Baby is married to Archie-Mae who has burned down they are busy watching the following hot scenes.



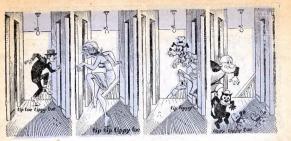


















DIRTY MIND! DIRTY MIND! I got a TOO-YOU fountain-pen... the brand name is TOOYOU, and Doll-Baby was using it to sign a confession that you burned down my cotton-gia... and I was saying, "Hold me TOOYOU!"















It sure do. Seems lak we h'ain't got NO-where. Seems lak this story is still unfinished and all up in the air.





Although Southerners speak perfect English, residents of other parts of the U. S. unfortunately don't. Ironically, these sloppy talkers from elsewhere complain, while visiting the South, they can't understand

the clear accents of the natives. To remedy this deplorable situation Ashley Cooper, columnist of The Charlestown News and Courier has compiled a Dictionary, a sample of which we present herewith.*

EXCERPTS FROM A SOUTHERN DICTIONARY

w A w

ABODE-A wooden plank.

AIR-What you hear with, i.e "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your airs."

on Bo

BALKS-A container, such as a match balks. BALL-To heat a liquid until

it bubbles.

BECKON-Meat from a pig,

often eaten with a-igs for brake-fuss. BRAID-What you make toe-

est from, to go along with beckon and a-igs for brakefuss.

BULL - Nickname for William. (Another nickname: Woolly)

CHESS-A strong balks (box).

COAT—Where they got that jedge an' all, i.e., "Stannup for hizzoner, coat's in session."

CUP-A place called home by hens, i.e., "Where's Woolly? Woolly's payntin' the hen cup."

o Fo

FAINTS - A barricade of wood or brick.

FLOW-What you stand on in a house.

FRUSTRATE - Tops; initial ranking.

on Go

GRANITE - Conceded, or given, i.e., "he was granite a pardon by the gouv-ner." GROAN-Increasing in size.

OHO

HAIL—The abode of integrationists, some damyankees and other evil spirits.

HALO—A greeting similar to "how do you do," (See Higher) i.e., "Halo, Woolly, what are you doing hanging around here?" "Higher, Bubber, I'm just hanging around for the hail of it."

HELL - An elevation lower than a mountain. HEPCAT-Act of giving as-

sistance to a feline.

on I on

LACK - Enjoy, i.e., "I lack fried chicken."

LAYMAN — A fruit from which layman-ade is made, i.e., "is that your layman-ade?" "No, that's pappa's-zone." "Well, poet back in the pitcher, cause Pappa's now drinking bare."

LUCK.-To direct one's gaze, i.e., "Luck year, Pappa, what Bubber did to your match balks."

or Por

PAIN-A writing instrument mightier than the sword. PLAY IT-Something you eat grits off of.

POET-To transfer a liquid, i.e., "Poet from the pitcher

to the glass,"

PRE-SHADE - Grateful for, i.e., "I pre-shade the compliment."

650

SEX-One less than seven, two less than eh-et, three less than noine, foe less than tin.

SNOW - To breathe loudly and heavily while sleeping.

oTo

TIN SIN STOW-The foive and doyme.

TONE-Ripped.

TUCK-Removed.

OVO

VERSION - The kind of Queen that Queen Elizabeth I was.

VERTIGO - What happened to HIM?

OWO

WRETCHED-The long name for the nickname "Dick".

oyon

YAWL-Mode of address used by N'Yawkers when visiting in the South.

YUK COME - Someone approaches, i.e., "Yuk come Romeo."

Published by The News and Courier, the complete Dictionary sells for 25s and may be obtained by writing the cerespace, 3rd Columbus St, Charleston, S. C. Profits go to the enveryper's Good Cheer Fund, for Charleston presents of the steep.



AN HISTORICAL ROMANCE

which breathes life into a little known episode in English history

THE KEEPER of the GELDED UNICORN

BY IRA WALLACH

"A HOGSHEAD OF FINE WINE!"

The barmaid, her eyes wide with admiration, looked at the man who had shouted his order with such an air of confident gaiety. He was tall, lean, with broad shoulders, slender hips, eyes that blazed like live coals, dark unruly hair; and a twinkle in the corner of a mouth which could, at times, be stern enough to strike terror into the hearts of the greatest awordsmen on the Continent and in very England lists.

"Come, maid, God wot, 'sblood, marry!" he called, "Did you not hear me, maid? A hogshead of fine wine!" He pinched her lightly and took her to bed, after which she brought the wine, her eyes tender and moist with devotion.

Two public letter writers whispered in a corner. Outside, the cry of the fishwives could be heard over the shouts of the children laughing and clapping as the dancing bear performed in the streets thick with cutpurses

The barmaid slipped into the kitchen where her father awaited. "Who is that young gentleman of noble mien, father?" she asked.

Old Robin, keeper of the inn, took one look and gasped. "The Keeper of the Gelded Unicorn!" he whispered. "The finest sword in England! Tis said he was born a foundling and rased in the court of the Duc D'Ambert who
lacked a son. The streets of London are paved
with the hearts he has broken, cemented, by the
blood he has spilled. But he is ever a friend to
the poor, and a sworn enemy to Guise, the Earl
of Essence!"

The barmaid's eyes filled with limpid tears.

"Then he is not for me, father!"

Old Robin shook his head sadly. "God wot, no, daughter," he said. "Good Brogo, the blacksmith's half-witted son, will make you a fine husband."

At that moment Guise, the Earl of Essence, successor to many proud titles, strode into the inn, followed by his retinue Guise might have been called handsome had not cruelty, avarice, and dissipation left their telltale marks.

The barmaid hastened to serve him. Guise narrowed his eyes. "A fine ankle," he murmured. His courtiers smoked as Guise fondled the barmaid. In a moment a shining blade lay across the table.

"Aha! Wouldst cross blades now, my lord Guise?"

Guise looked up into a pair of burning eyes. "Your time will come, Warren of Hastings," he spat, addressing the Keeper of the Gelded Unicorn by his true name, known only to those few who's suspected from his demeanor that in his blood ran the cold skill of the English, the wild ferocity of the Scotch border chiefs, the lilting carefree spirit of the Irish, and the soft and murmurous tenderness of the Latin. Abrunity, Giuse rose and left with his returne.

The barmaid approached the table and put her hand timidly upon that of Warren of Hastings. "You should not have done it, my lord," she murmured

He snapped his fingers. "What if I do start the Thirty Years' War!" he exclaimed in his carefree manner.

BIRD WATCHERS GUIDE An indispensable chart of feathered creatures



American Bald Eagle Range: Pennsylvania, Washington, D. C. and neighboring links Habitat Farms, White-Houses, etc. Identification Though likeable, often lacks direction in flight Constant smile sort of engenders confidence. Great favorite of women and children Not quite totally bald though.



Range: Anywhere to everywhere. Habitat: Airplanes, trains, buses, etc. Identification: Tail feathers badly bruised. Hard to observe and understand. Feathers nests of many birds.



English Wien

Range: Thames River to Bermuda. Habitat: Drafty Parliamentary halls. Identification: Limited in flights and fancies. At present has all its (defensive) eggs in one basket.

FOR HUMBUGIANS with familiar faces and nomes de plumage.



Collon- Pickin De sert Hanck Range: Anywhere but France, Britain and Israel. Habitat: Artificial, waterways.

Identification Claylike feet and Russian arms. Loves to lay an egg in other bird's nest. Has on occasion, been known to eat Crow. Has kept feathers intact regardless of previous tarrings.



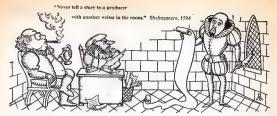
White Custed Cel Siper

Range Very limited (of necessity) Hahvat: Small, sandy area. Identification: Though favorite for carnivorous desert hawks, this hird is reatly a fierce fighter when provoked.



Culan Conder

Prange Armored limousines to palatial bastions. t abitat Midst milk and honey atop dynamite dentification. Seemingly insatiable appethe Reduces to carrion anything in its way



A CANDID VIEW of WM. SHAKESPEARE AT WORK

From a study of his work, it is clear that people in Shakespeare's time were basically the same as today. To dramatize this point Ken Englund has reconstructed a probable scene of how Shakespeare might have sold a story plot to a producer in 1593.

SIR MILTON: Bill, tell the story to Francis. Francis, see what we might salvage out of this.

FRANCIS: Now, fellows, I am just here for laughs. but I'll be glad to throw in whatever I can. (He lights pipe) God knows it would hardly be fair for me to get anything out of this. What's your notion, Bill?

BILL: Well, this Danish Prince-

SIR MILTON: Or Irish, Francis, they're a jollier race. I don't want you boys to be tied down to anything.

BILL: Anyway, I call him Hamlet-

FRANCIS: (Pulling on his pipe thoughtfully) Hmmm-

BILL: -sees a-

SIR MILTON: Wait, Bill, You had a thought Francis. What was it? That's what I want, reactions. FRANCIS: It's nothing that we can't fix-

SIR MILTON What?

FRANCIS: Nothing, except Hamlet isn't an Irish name. I just throw that in for what it's worth.

BILL. Anyway, the ghost of Hamlet's father appears and tells his son of his murderFRANCIS: Wait, this isn't the old Icelandic saga about the son avenging his father's murder? Bill: (Feebly) I thought I had a new treatment of it

As we look in at the office of Sir Milton,

the producer. Will Shakespeare is in a story

conference with Sir Milton while Francis

Bacon, the producer's nephew who has

been brought in to act as a "sounding

board", sits off to one side listening,

FRANCIS: Oh, but Billy. You can't use that hackneved revenge angle. You can't palm it off as a Norse legend again no matter how you disguise it -

SIR MILTON: I've only been trying to tell him that for a half hour. FRANCIS: Why not build on the one fresh ele-

ment we've got-the Irish nobleman?

BILL: (Completely broken) It-might be some-

SIR MILTON: Is there anything in "Othello" we could use? We own it.

Shakespeare pretends he has to leave the room and hides outside till Francis leaves after which Bill returns to his seat where he sits hunched over facing Sir Milton, and ad libs from a rough manuscript.

BILL: . '. Oh I die, Horatio, the potent poison quite orecrowes my spirit,

(As Sir Milton listens, he rubs his hand over his face, opening his mouth wide - a nervous habit)

I cannot live to hear the news from England, but I do prophesize the election lights

(Sir Milton breathes a depressed sigh, morosely nibbles at grapes)

On Fortinbras, he has my dying voice, so tell him with the occurrents more or less, which have solicited. (Pause)

The rest is silence, (Looks up) He dies

(Through this, Sir Milton, startled, studies Bill sharply) Horatio: Now cracks a noble heart-I'm just ad

libbing-I'll polish later-

(Through this, Sir Milton opens a desk drawer, takes out a bottle of eye-wash and an eye-dropper, tilts his head back and puts drops in) Good night, sweet Prince, and flights of Angels

sing thee to thy rest (Bill looks up-explains lamely)

Anyway-Fortinbras with the English Ambassador, comes in for a tag I'm working out-and I give Fortinbras the last speech.

(reads)

Let four Captains bear Hamlet-

SIR MILTON: (Looks up. frowning) Who? BILL: Hamlet-(hastily)-but it can be any name

-(reads) * Bear Hamlet-(to producer) for now-Hamlet

(reads) like a soldier to the stage, for he was likely, had be been put on to have proved most royally-(Sir Milton, fidgety, toys with mirror, glances

into it, examines face, teeth, tonque)

And for his passage, the soldier's music and the rites of war speak loudly for him.

(Sir Milton rises, turns over his seat cushion, sits) Take up the bodies, such a sight as this becomes

the field. (Sir Milton doodles with quilt pen thought-

fully)

But here shows much amiss. Go, bid the soldiers shoot . . . Then they exit marching, after which a peal of ordnance is shot off.

(He finishes, waiting for Sir Milton's reaction. The producer keeps staring down at desk, unaware the story is over. He looks up, reacts, then after a thoughtful pause . . .)

SIR MILTON: Bill, what would you think about working with another writer?



BOXES

That box of cereal on the kitchen shelf is a familiar sight in any American home, but how many people actually take the time to note what's printed on these boxes? We did and YEGADS!

CEREAL BOX OPENED AND FLATTENED OUT TO

the cereal box is no longer a container, but a medium of communication; in fact, a publication



SHOW ALL PRINTED SURFACES

Small box folds into big box and contains such items as lucky rabbit's feet, treasure maps, sleds, roller skates, bikes, Thunderbirds, etc















Kulleggis

RECIPE . . CORNBALL BANG Sook the finkes avernight in milk. Then drain by equicking between fingers f the conner.

ball mould with this much and bake in 230" even for eight hours. Result will be three steal heed content Contents that can be shat from your pasembled agonom







STLLYS VIRGINICATE



CANNONBALL MOULD SUFFERING FROM-PAINFUL **IRREGULARITY** try INSTANT BRAN

Cautino Be souted before using

To female fraghters this box is made of THERMOPLENE cardeourd with the dead air space between 'to legant futteer freshmens such Have a reducidantly drapted it will







MOVIES

LAST DAYS OF COMBAT ... and "you know who" gets killed.



OFF TO INDIA ... and "you know who" gets killed.

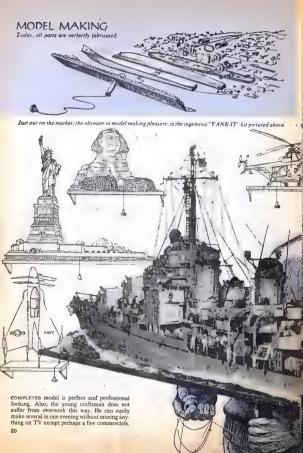


MODEL MAKING

Model making used to be a form of torture that young boys were subjected to years ago. Model kits contained only the basic raw materials and simple instructions. Every single part had to be fashioned completely

by hand. Many years of painful and frustrating work went by before a lad could come up with anything that was worthwhile looking. However, thanks to industry, things are much nicer today as we shall see on the following pages.











-BASEBALL

BY LACOR "LUKES" MARLEY SPORTS EDITOR

Hi again sportsfans! Well it seems many of you thought my predictions last year were a hit awry, so I thought I'd wait until this season was slightly underway before making any more guesses! So yours truly is sticking his neck out again, but I don't mind 'cause. sportstans I've stuck my neck out before and I can still swallow (heh heh) with difficulty sportstans.



I pick these individuals to cop the headlines by hook and/or crook!

Cours out on a limb Poick the N.Y. Yankees in the American League Devout Manager Casev Stengel says, "As usual, we're short on talent so all I can do is hope for some help from "hora"



Ted Kluszewski (Cinncinati N 1) says "This season I shall steal as many bases as I please

and no jury will ever convict me!" But my prediction He'll get 3 to 5 years medium labor.



Be ready for another four-way trade between Brooklyn (N.L.). Giants (N.L.), Look (Mag.) and Chack-Full-O'-Nuts INVCA



Biggest winner will be Irving Rackem, poolsoom proprietor, who will bet on the Yankees to win the Pennant, World Series and next presidential election.



Future Map of Future U.S.,

I predict Kansas City (A.L.) will trade its entire team, farm system and (for use as a new stadium) the state of Kansas (U.S.A.) for Robin Roberts who will object since he is owned by the Phillies (N.L.)

Here's how they'll

AMERICAN LEAGUE

- 1. New York Yankees 2 New York Yankees
- 3. New York Yankees
- 4. New York Yankees 5 New York Yankees
- 6 New York Yankees
- 7 New York Yankees
- 8 (Tie) Boston, Detroit Baltimore, Washington Chicago, K. C. Cleveland

Pre-Game Devotion

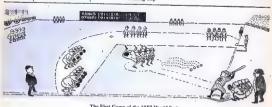
PREDICTIONS

The 1957 National League Pennant will be made of material culled from old Cincinnati (N I) uniform sleeves

The National League Cincinnati Redlegs' legs are not really red



Although Ted Williams (Boston A.I.) set an extremely torrid pace last year. I predict that 'Gabby' Haves (M.G.M.) will not only surpass Williams but will splatter all former records. and ring up some new ones



The First Game of the 1957 World Series

The four-way-dead-heat for the N.L. bunting will be unprece dented I predict league prexy

Warren Giles will rule that all tour teams simultaneously play the Yanks in the World Series.

This will give the Nationals (N.L.) an advantage and change odds to 11-5 favor the Yanks.

Although popular opinion has credited one Abner Doubleday with inventing baseball, it was actually created by an advertising agency as a promotion gimmick for shaving products.





finish in 1957. NATIONAL LEAGUE

- 1. (Tie) Bronklyn Milwaulie St
 - Louis Concinnati 2. Leo Durocher (N.B.C.)
 - 3. Nashua 4. (Tie) Chicago, Pittsburgh
 - 5. Robin Roberts
- 6. New York
- 7. Philadelphia
- 8. Television viewers



Hank Greenberg (Cleveland, A.L.) will have to do the job for which he had tried to hire Leo Durocher (N.B.C. TV) So, sportsfans, since you know what's going to happen this season you can stay home from the games and you'll still be one up on the average ardent fan.



Ardent Sports Far

FLEEING THE APACHE ... and "you know who" gets killed.



THE OVERCONFIDENT SURGEON...and "you know who" gets killed.



TELEVISION

I'm Jack Barrel, your MC for Twenty-Win. To play this game, we need two isolation booths, two crazy girls who spin out from behind to open the booth doors and an interesting challenger. But mainly we need a champion who will win the heart of the observers . . . a champion who obviously goes through humility and torture in seeking answers to the questions. Such a champion we have here.

For the audience's benefit, sir, what is your name?



TWENTY-WIN

One thing about this famous t.v. quiz game is that the rules are pretty complicated. It struck us that for the sake of whatever other groups might want to

t play Twenty-Win, someone should record in print a t demonstration of equipment and procedures for playing. So we did . . . on this and the following pages.









All hydding seide I would like to quickly explain the rules to you. After our contestants Mr Van Movine and Miss VaVoom are locked in the booths, the signs light up....

for the amount of money won . . . for the points for the spansor for sameone's tilting



Mr. Van Moving has already won \$150,000. I am ready to ask him a question. He can hear me and I can hear him but she can't hear me but he can't hear her and I can't hear either one of them! No wonder, my earnhones



However, the real secret of th game's success is contestants like Mr. Van Moving That boy can answer ANYTHING!





Miss VaVoom stepped out to find her earring, a hammered gold nendant set with a fake zircon, which is laying directly





However, since at this moment the Soviet government is setting off the most powerful blast in a series of topsecret thermo-nuclear tests in the outer-Siberian district of lower Yakutsk, the tremor of which you should feel in 2 seconds

... Miss VaVoom will be slightly delayed in returning ... whew!

\$10,000 dollars

HE'S RIGHT for another

That boy

can answer

The pext round of questions will be worth \$5000 which will be worth \$25,000 next round if he wins, which is actually \$2000 after laxes. However if he loses, he forfeits the 50 000 but will not lose what he's won. But he can choose not to lose or win if he wants



If he does not want to lose, he waves hanks 3 times and yells 'I quit' She can quit first if he don't quit, but if he quits twice in a row, she can't ouit. Now I can hear him but she can't bear him although I can hear her She can hear me but he can't hear her and if she vells 'I out', then a buzzer rings and duck comes down with a prize because she said the secret word



Now let's get down to the questioning. The category is the Thousand Islands The question . name the only S of the Chousand Islands that weren't visited by the snotted snapping turtle last year



In 1839, the first settlers of Kong drew up an agree ment, the great Kong document signed by three people! Can you hame the printer who printed the forms used for document







ever mind me answer ng you! answer me for a change.

The answer Mr. Van Moving! to that one How come you is easy.With Suppose you aren't going my last anthrough humility swer. I won and torture he program

From now on I'll ask the questions around here!

RIGHI

HE'S RIGHT' I hope we have clearly explained how you play Twenty-Win, And now, even though I can't hear you, you can't hear me . . . because we've reached the end of the story







THE HERO'S PAL RACES ... and "you know who" gets killed.



SETTING THE STAGE ... and "you know who" gets killed.



MISSION AT DAWN ... and "you know who" gets killed.



THE THING FROM SPACE ... and "you know who" gets killed.



DISCOVERY EXPLAINS ATOM FUSION

Lotest development in atomic physics is a newly discovered principle of PROTON-RECIPROCITY. Researchers at Los Miralane laboratories call it key to all sorts of hideous mysteries of nature, including the newiguely unanswered riddle. "when is a beta-ray not a beta-ray?" Answer: "When it's just meson around " Note following diagrams

Atom crossing grid (resistance) now seen as result of PROTON-RECIPROCITY.



Here Marre solope (Ale 235) bombards Absorbine atom (Asp 126) over electric and with fast protot









Nuclear fusion occurs when Murine atom jumps over electric grid to console dejected opponent. The previously unexplained action is now seen as a result of successful proton exchange. A later match between Larvex atom and an isotope of Lister-ins was called on account of cosmic radiation.

England, in the Year of Our Lord 1746 was torn by dissension. The Queen's faction, headed by Warren of Hastings with the loval aid of France's Count D'Meme-Chose, was plotting an anti-Spanish alliance with the Holy Roman Fmnire and the Palantinate. The King's faction, led by Guise. Earl of Essence, sought instead an alliance with the Saracen, and the Farl was ready to go so far as to sign a secret treaty with the Czar. Richelieu, disturbed by the development of events, vaciliated between the two, and only the Huguenots, tied as they were by bonds of kinship and blood to Austro-Hungary, and influenced by the sinister figure of Oliver Cromwell, followed an unswerving path. No one knew in which direction the Winter King would turn. and over all loomed the shadow of Napoleon. Into this maelstrom grimly strode Philip IV of Spain, Lenin remained non-committal, Little wonder that heads rolled in the Tower and that on the streets of London Warren of Hastings, at the head of his faithful hand, often clashed with the hired cutthroats and Pomeranian mercenaries brought to England by Guise, the Farl of Essence.

Through a dark street, disguised only by a cloak over his face, Warren of Hastings sped toward the Palace. Two public letter writers whispered in a corner. The cry of the fishwives could be heard over the shouts of the children laughing and clapping as the dancing bear performed in the streets thick with cutpurses. In a few moments, Warren of Hastings was in the Queen's bedchamber where he took the cloak from his face and murmured, "My lady!"

She walked toward him slowly, her dark hair gleaming under a caul of tinsel, her arms outstretched. "Warren of Hastings," she whispered, "swordsman, warrior, balladeer, courtier, pamphleteer, lover, poet, and patriot!"

He seized her roughly, importunately, and drew her to the window where he laid his cheek athwart her heaving boson. She yielded momentarily, then turned her face to the darkening sky. "Not now," she whispered, "not now." Then, "Marry," she said, "notice you white clouds."

"Not so white as thy teeth," he replied, "nor half so regular."

Again she freed herself from his embrace.
"God wot, Warren, even now my Earl of Guise
is approaching Duncanfayne with a horde of
Pomeranians. Tis said they will lay siege to
Duncanfayne this night!"

Warren of Hastings leaped back, his hand instinctively clutching his sword's hilt. "Duncanfayne, where my lady has hidden her trea-

She nodded quietly and only a tear betrayed her thoughts.

"And my liege, the King?" asked Warren of Hastings.

"Carousing with Gisette of Lyons." She said it without bitterness although a trace of irony hardened her voice. "Little does he know that Gisette of Lyons is in the pay of Richelieu!" "More fool he!" murmured Warren of Hast-

ings.
"Sir!" cried the Queen, stirred to sudden

wrath, "you are speaking of our lord, the King!"
Warren of Hastings dropped to his knees and
pressed her hand against his lips. "Forgive me,
dear lady," he pleaded. "I forgot myself"

"I forgive you," she said, forcing his head against the pillow.

"Even now Warren of Hastings, the Keeper of the Gelded Unicorn, is closeted in the Queen's chamber while we march on Duncanfayne," spat Guise as he rode his charger through the murky night, followed by a horde of Pomeranians.

Across the channel rose a faint glow from the fire whereon Joan of Arc was burning. Hammel de Vyl, the Earl's companion and master spy, smiled a dry smile. "More fool he," muttered Hammel.

The Earl snarled lightly, "Is all prepared?"
Again Hammel laughed, but with no trace of humor. "The guards are bribed, the moat is down, the bridge is up, and our agent has spavined all the spears in Duncanfayne. Warren of Hastings wots not of this."

"Well done, Hammel de Vyl," remarked the Earl, tossing him a bag of doubloons.

The four-master leaned to the wind, the night foam spraying her bow.

"Wet the sails, ye slobberers!" shouted the captain, his teeth trembling in the gale. "Jettison the cargo!"

The sailors sprang to, and overboard went casks, barrels of sprawns, cauls of lichen, two farthingales, and a huge tusk of billingsgate. Leaning against the mainmast, his feet on the mizzen, his face turned to the flying spray, was Warren of Hastings. Near him stood the faith-ful Edward Masterfield, a youth whose courage for the sail of the

and sword most closely matched those of Warwan himself

"God wot Edward" cried Warren "little does Guise reck that we shall cut him off at Dunanfavne by sea this night!"

"More fool he" said Edward his mouth making a grim line as his forefinger tested the edge of his sword

From the crow's nest far aloft came a sudden call, "Land shoy!" All eyes turned to the starboard where across the bow, faintly elimmered the lights from the storm-tossed battlements of Duncanfayne.

Within an hour's time the good ship Aphrodite had tied up alongside and a group of silent men their faces in their cloaks slinned ashore In bloodstained Duncanfavne, Guise, the Earl

of Essence, and Hammel de Vvl saw victory within their green Then the Oneen would sing a different tune indeed! Richelieu and the Winter King would have to retreat, and the counsel of the Earl of Essence would carry new weight in Venice before the whole province went to the Doges! Even the crown-it was not impossible, nay, it was probable-might revert to the Earl himself once the King had become sufficiently involved in his wild dream of an entente with Bruit van Hooten of Holland!

The Farl himself led his men to the gates of the freesury But suddenly the door swung onen, a strong hand reached out and pulled the Earl within. The door immediately slammed shut against his Pomeranian followers.

Rewildered, the Earl looked about. The floors were strewn with the Queen's jewelry. Upon the table four candles gave the vault its only light. Lined against the walls were the followers of the Queen's faction, and there in the center, his merry eyes still twinkling, stood Warren of Hastings. Keeper of the Gelded Unicorn.

"Shlood!" cried Guise.

"How now Guise," answered Warren, brushing back an unruly lock of curly hair. "Got wot!" retorted the Earl.

"Marry!" laughed Warren in rejoinder, "Shall we try the temper of our swords?"

Guise blanched. "Your men," he said, indicating the band that stood against the walls.

"My retinue will not interefere, will you, retinue?"

"Nay, God wot!" they cried as one man.

"Then, have to!" shouted Warren, unsheathing his blade. The Earl leaped back and bared his sword to the candlelight. For a moment they fenced cautiously. Then the swords locked at the hilt and the two faces met and almost touched. "I about the two faces met and announced Guise

"I at ue see who does the roasting and who does the eating," rejoined Warren between clenched teeth

They separated. The blades flashed. The Earl advanced, taking the offensive, Skillfully, Warren parried the quick thrusts as he retreated around the table. At that moment he caught the eve of Edward Masterfield and turned to smile It was a mistake of overconfidence, for in that very moment of turning, Guise's swift blade thrust in cut through doublet, lumpkin, ruffle, and wattles, drawing a thin line of blood upon Warran's shoulder

" 'Shlood!" cried Warren of Hastings, Quickly he turned to the offensive and brought the duel to the Farl, his lightning blade catching the fine glints of the candlelight. Another bold thrust forward, and bright steel cut flesh on Guise's thigh. Guise withdrew, but Warren was relentless A few sudden parries, a feint, an entrechat, and to the hoarse cry of "Long live the Oueen!" a slender blade shot forward and pierced the Farl's throat.

Warren sighed, "Now open the doors," he ordered his men. The doors swung wide. The Pomeranians advanced, but catching sight of the Farl, now dead, they fell back with a cry of horror, and crossed the Channel.

"A good night's work," murmered Edward Masterfield weakly, as he drew a Pomeranian arrow, shot by a fleeing malcontent, from his abdomen.

It was a gay and lighthearted Warren of Hastings who brought the lewels to the Queen's chamber. Although she had lost neither whit nor tittle of her regal bearing, her eyes spoke for her as she said, "You may kiss me, Warren of Hastings."

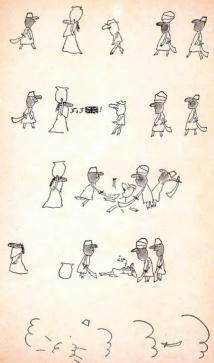
"And now, beloved lady," cried Warren of Hastings, "on to the War of the Roses!"

Her eves filled with tears. "Honor will always take thee further afoot than love," she sighed. "God wot," he replied, bowing his head.

Through the window the sun rose on the battlements and on the triumphant standards of the Queen. Warren of Hastings silently arose from bed

and removed his hat.

England was safe.









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Wilder and wilder grew Waheard her murmurous, "No, heart's puppet, and he coulc English, Scotch, or Latin by drew her still closer as the and ecstatic silence.

Outside the palace two whispered in a corner. The could be heard over the laughing and clapping as

A WORD OF CAUTION

Check your copy of HUMBUG at the newsstand-the rascally newsdealer may have cut out your \$5.00 bill for himself.